

DUNSTER PARISH COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE PARISH COUNCIL MEETING HELD At DUNSTER TITHE BARN ON Monday 10th
November 2025 7.00pm

Attendees

Councillors: Geoff Dibble (Chair), Carol Ell, Alan Vicary, Tessa Williams, Kevin Sully, Peter Finney, Tony Melnyk, Matt Griffiths, Barbara Bryan and Steve Harris

Clerk: Mrs Sarah Towells

Other: Marcus Kravis (SC), Victoria Webbon (National Trust), Carol Hunt (National Trust) and one parishioner

Apologies

Councillors: James Morley

Other: Cara Strom (SC)

Cllrs absent without apology: None

25/177 To note apologies for absence: As noted above.

25/178 Any New Declarations of interest and dispensations: There were none.

25/179 Minutes of the meeting held on 13th October 2025 for approval: It was resolved to approve the minutes.

25/180 Co-option of a new Councillor: It was resolved Barbara Bryan would join the council who duly signed her declaration of office.

25/181 Somerset Councillor Report: Cllr Kravis reported that mobile signal in Dunster is still on the radar of the portfolio holder. A meeting regarding the traffic lights in Dunster is being arranged.

25/182 Accounts

25/182.1 Approval of expenditure: It was resolved to pay the payments on the attached list.

25/182.2 Current account expenditure analysis for October 2025: It was resolved to note the figures, and Cllr Finney would sign these.

25/182.3 Bank reconciliation for October 2025: It was resolved to note the bank reconciliation which would be signed by Cllr Finney.

25/182.4 Budget Monitoring: It was resolved to note the budget monitoring which would be signed by Cllr Finney.

25/182.5 PAYE figures for October 2025: It was resolved to note these were correct and a payment of £61.94 would be sent to HMRC.

25/183 Planning:

25/183.1 To consider the following planning applications:

ENP	6/10/25/022LB	Proposal: Listed Building Consent for internal works within the basement boiler room of Dunster Castle, a Grade I listed building. The proposed works involve the removal of a redundant oil tank and a section of non-significant brick infill within an earlier brick arch, and the casting of a new concrete pad to facilitate future boiler installation. At Dunster Castle	It was resolved there were no objections
SC	3/21/25/050	Erection of a temporary staff accommodation village comprising of snoozepods, common room units and associated landscaping for a period of up to three years (retention of works already undertaken) At Butlins, Minehead	It was resolved there were no objections

25/184 Review of Asset Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

25/185 Toilets:

25/185.1 Donation box: It was resolved to note the box should be ready for collection at the end of next week.

25/185.2 Agree tender advert for cleaning contract: It was resolved to put the advert for the cleaning contract on the notice boards, in the Free Press and on Social media. Applications close 1st December with the view to the contract starting on 1st January 2026.

25/186 Cemetery's:

25/186.1 Cemetery 3 – The cemetery committee met on 20th October and discussed where the entrance gate should go. It was resolved to get 3 quotes to include the potholes on the road up to the cemetery.

25/186.2 Cemetery 2 – paint gates: It was resolved note the Clerk reported the job was now complete.

25/186.3 Cemetery 1 – It was resolved to accept the quote from David Greenslade. at a cost of £655.00 to tidy hedge between Dunster cemetery and Dunster first school, including removing ash tree.

25/187 Allotments: A picket fence is required around the end plot as you drive into the allotments. It was resolved to get quotes for this.

25/187.1 Water leak: It was resolved to note Wessex Water has repaired the leak.

25/188 Buttercross Orchard: Cllr Harris reported there was lots of apples and the committee have spent 2 full days making apple juice. There are 60 litres of cider on the go and 28 bottles of juice had been donated to the foodbank.

25/189 Riverside Walk: It was resolved to note the footpath had not yet been repaired.

25/189.1 Agree quote for new bench: It was resolved to pay £160.00 towards the new picnic bench and a parishioner had offered to pay another £80.00 towards it. It was resolved to purchase the bench from Tim Ahern.

25/190 Correspondence: A letter had been received regarding the explorer bus: It was resolved to support this.

25/190.1 Email from Andy Fay regarding the Memorial Hall: It was resolved to invite Andy Fay to the next meeting to discuss this.

25/190.2 Email from Park Street Resident regarding speeding: It was resolved to support the email although some councillors thought it was difficult to speed up Park Street. It was resolved to send the letter to Highways. It was further resolved to ask the sender to join the speed watch group

25/191 Review of Risk Register: It was resolved to note there were no updates.

25/192 Neighbourhood plan: It was resolved there was no update.

25/193 Defibs: The Clerk reported the electrician had been asked to fit the new Defib at Tim Ahern's shop. It was resolved to note that Dunster Estate were in support of this.

25/194 Highways:

25/194.1 To form a speed watch group: It was resolved to note Cllr Dibble had received 3 responses to join a speed watch group so far.

25/194.2 Bollards on the old A39: It was resolved to accept G A Sully's quote to replace the 2 broken bollards.

25/194.3 Report from Exmoor LCN: It was resolved to note the report that Cllr Harris circulated after attending the meeting.

25/195 Bike Racks: It was resolved to get quotes for fitting the Bike racks.

25/196 To Fill vacancies on the following committees:

Cemetery Committee: It was resolved Cllr Bryan would join the Cemetery Committee

Grievance Committee: It was resolved Cllr Bryan would join the Grievance Committee

Planning Committee: It was resolved Cllr Morley would join the planning committee

25/197 Items to Report:

The light still needs to be returned to the new pole on priory Green
Drain by the Chocolate shop has dropped
Clerk to find out when the Highways work would be done as agreed with Gary warren
Colin McDonald would be meeting with the Council on 8th December at 6.30pm

25/198 Matters for the next meeting to be held on Monday 8th December 2025:

Report from West Somerset LCN Highways meeting
Toilet cleaning contract
Clerks pay award

25/199 Close Meeting: The chairman declared the meeting closed 8.27 p.m.

Signed Date.....